

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/577,032

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

Applicant(s)

TASHIRO ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed October 10, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) ~~is~~ are 1,2,4-8,17 and 18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) None
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/10/06 and 11/2/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 10, 2006 has been entered.

Accordingly, claims 3, 9-16 and 19-56 were cancelled. Currently, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 17 and 18 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 17 and 18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claim 1, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a blue-colored layer, a red-color layer and a green-color layer formed at an area of a shading film, wherein only the blue-colored layer is in contact with the sealing material.

The most relevant reference, USPN 5,910,829 to Shimada et al. (Shimada), fails to disclose or suggest that only the blue-colored layer is in contact with the sealing material. In Fig. 14, Shimada shows a blue-colored layer B being in contact with the sealing material 133; however, there are only one blue-colored layer formed at an area

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of the shading film 134. In Figs. 15 and 16, Shimada shows a blue-colored layer B, a red-color layer R and a green-color layer G formed at an area of the shading film 134a; however, the blue-colored layer B and the red-color layer R are in contact with the sealing material 133.

Re claim 4, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a light incident hole opened at a shading film above a transfer.

The most relevant reference, JP 09-090383 to Hasegawa et al. (JP'383), fails to disclose a light incident hole opened at the shading film above a transfer. As shown in Figs. 5 and 8, the JP'383 only discloses a light transmitting part (hole filled with transparent material) 53 formed at the shading film 43b.

Re claim 5, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, an external peripheral end of the frame-shape structure and an external peripheral end of the black matrix picture-frame being formed to coincide with each other when viewing from a perpendicular direction to the substrates.

The most reference, USPN 5,621,553 to Nishiguchi et al. (Nishiguchi), fails to suggest the claimed invention. As shown in Fig. 1, Nishiguchi only discloses an external peripheral end of the frame-shape structure 7 and an internal peripheral end 8 of the black matrix picture-frame 8 being formed to coincide with each other when viewing from a perpendicular direction to the substrates.

Re claim 17, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a liquid crystal display comprising a plurality of structures formed

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inside the display area of the substrate to which liquid crystal is dropped for changing spreading shape of dropped liquid crystal from a circular shape to a square shape.

The most reference, USPN 6,226,067 B1 to Nishiguchi et al. (Nishiguchi), fails to disclose the spreading shape of dropped liquid crystal changing from a circular shape to a square shape. As shown in Figs. 7, 9 and 21b, Nishiguchi discloses a liquid crystal display comprising a plurality of structures 3 formed inside the display area of the substrate 1 to which liquid crystal 5 is dropped in a circular shape for preventing flow of the liquid crystal within the liquid crystal light modulation area; however, Nishiguchi is silent about the spreading shape of the dropped liquid crystal.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at (571) 272-1787.

Thoi V. Duong

12/12/2006

